

DRAFT VERSION ONLY – NOT FOR PUBLICATION

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE OF UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PROGRAM PERMIT ACTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces the start of a 60-day public comment period for three Underground Injection Control (UIC) Draft Area Permits and one associated proposed aquifer exemption decision for the Dewey-Burdock uranium in-situ recovery (ISR) site located in the southern Black Hills, South Dakota, under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act and UIC program regulations. The Dewey-Burdock site is located in southwestern Custer County and northwestern Fall River County, South Dakota.

The EPA Region 8 UIC Program is issuing three Draft UIC Area Permits to Powertech (USA) Inc. for injection activities related to uranium recovery. One is a UIC Class III Area Permit for injection wells for the ISR of uranium; the second is a UIC Class V Area Permit for deep injection wells that will be used to dispose of treated ISR process waste fluids into the Minnelusa Formation after treatment to meet radioactive waste and hazardous waste standards; and the third is a UIC Class I Area Permit for deep injection wells that may be used to dispose of treated ISR process waste fluids into the Deadwood Formation after treatment to meet radioactive waste and hazardous waste standards. The EPA is also proposing an aquifer exemption approval in connection with the Class III Area Permit to exempt the uranium-bearing portions of the Inyan Kara Group aquifers.

How to Comment: Written comments must be received by email, fax or mail sent to:

Valois Shea (shea.valois@epa.gov)

Fax: 303-312-7084

U.S. EPA Region 8

Mail Code 8WP-SUI

1595 Wynkoop St.

Denver, CO 80202-1129

Public Hearing Information: The EPA will hold public hearings in Rapid City, Edgemont, Hot Springs, South Dakota and Valentine, Nebraska. The public may also provide written and/or verbal comments during EPA's public hearings. For public hearing dates and locations, please see the EPA Region 8 UIC Program website below.

Information Available for Review: All information submitted by the applicant and generated by the EPA during permit application review is available for public review as part of the administrative record and will be available on the EPA Region 8 UIC Program website: [[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/uic/uic-epa-region-8"](https://www.epa.gov/uic/uic-epa-region-8)]. Available documents include the permit applications, draft permits, fact sheet documents and other supporting documents. The administrative record will be available for public review as of October 14, 2016.

The close of the public comment period will be listed on the EPA Region 8 UIC Program website.